November 30, 2008

Re: U.S. Pat. Appl. No. 10/707,672 ; Response to non-final office action mailed 5/30/2008

Dear Examiner,

Please accept my response to your office action mailed on May 30, 2008, regarding U.S. Utility Patent Application No. 10/707,672. In the office action, all of the original claims 1-18 were rejected. I would like to offer the amended claims attached here, which more accurately describe what was invented and which will, I believe, overcome the prior art cited in the office action. I would be grateful if you would consider the following in reviewing the new claims.

The original claims do not adequately reflect what was invented.

The heart of this invention is the use of known, highly odiferous and repulsive chemical fly attractants (trimethylamine and butyric acid) in a new way, such that a new, non-objectionable fly lure is created. By dispensing trimethylamine and butyric acid in a controlled manner, such that air concentrations of these stinky components do not exceed the human revulsion threshold, a lure is created that can be used indoors in living spaces and public places.

The specification clearly describes the importance of control of air concentrations of trimethylamine and butyric acid. However, the original claims do not reflect the control or regulation of the air concentrations of these volatiles, and thus, do not speak specifically to the invention described in the Specification, which relies on said regulation.

The large volume of prior art does not anticipate the use of these highly odiferous volatile chemical attractants in this way. There is no mention of controlling air concentrations of these volatiles in any of the prior art attractants. Existing fly traps using the prior art attractants cannot be used indoors because of the strong odor emitted from them.

It is true that if this invention were merely a mixture of the known attractants, examiner's arguments of *prima facie* obviousness would be undeniable. However, it was not previously known that very low concentrations--barely detectable or not detectable by humans--of the volatile chemicals trimethylamine and butyric acid would be highly attractive to houseflies, or that at these low concentrations they would continue to show synergy with other attractants like Z-9-tricosene and egg powder.

I respectfully submit these new claims with the hope that they more accurately reflect the invention described in the specification, correctly reflect the novelty of this invention, and will now overcome obviousness objections based on the prior art.